GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:754
ANSWERED ON:03.12.2015
Demand and Supply of Drinking Water
Rajoria Dr. Manoj

Will the Minister of DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the demand and supply of drinking water in the country at present, State/UT-wise including Rajasthan;
(b) the per capita requirement of drinking water in the country, State/UT-wise including Rajasthan; and
(c) the steps taken by the Government in the last one year to address the problem of shortage of drinking water in the country particularly in Rajasthan?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION
(SHRI RAM KRIPAL YADAV)

(a) Under National Rural Drinking Water Programme (NRDWP) guidelines, the per capita norm for drinking water is 40 litres per capita per day (Lpcd). States, however, are free to fix higher norms based on water availability, demand, capital cost involved, affordability etc. Out of a total of 17,13,303 rural habitations in the country as on 30.11.2015, there are 3,60,415 partially covered habitations where drinking water supply is less than the prescribed norm of 40 Lpcd and 63,831 habitations are quality affected where drinking water source is contaminated by either one or more of chemical contaminants.
(b) The per capita requirement of drinking water pre-supposes the fixing of an ideal norm and equivalent level of service delivery. Under NRDWP at present, this norm is 40 Lpcd for the rural population of the country. States, however, are free to fix higher norms based on water availability, demand, capital cost involved, affordability etc.
(c) Drinking Water Supply is a State subject. Under National Rural Drinking Water Programme, this Ministry provides financial and technical assistance to States to supplement their efforts to provide adequate safe drinking water to rural population. Also as immediate measures, States have been asked to provide safe drinking water through community water purification plants in quality affected habitations. To increase the availability of drinking water, the Ministry has suggested to adopt water conservation measures like roof top rainwater harvesting, erecting sustainability structures for water conservation etc. Hydro Geomorphological Maps (HGM) are being used for accurately locating new drinking water sources in the field.